



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

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GOVERNOR

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DOH MOVES FORWARD ON ADMINISTRATIVE RULE CHANGES TO PROVIDE EXEMPTION FOR HIV RAPID TESTING

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) will be conducting public hearings statewide on May 14 using videoconferencing to announce proposed rules that will help to facilitate HIV rapid testing by non-profit organizations. The public hearing process is one of the final steps toward adoption of administrative rule changes.

On March 24, Governor Linda Lingle signed the DOH request for preliminary approval of the proposed Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 11 Chapter 110.1 entitled, "Clinical Laboratories and Laboratory Personnel." This proposed rule change will provide less stringent regulations for non-profit organizations and other state or local government laboratories that engage in limited public health testing. These organizations currently may be unable to perform certain tests (such as HIV rapid testing) if they do not meet the current requirements for licensure which can be cost prohibitive.

Public hearings will be held May 14, 2007 at 1:00 p.m. at the following video conferencing center locations:

- Keoni Ana Building, 1177 Alakea Street, Room 302, Honolulu, O'ahu
- Kakuhihewa Building, 601 Kamokila Boulevard, Room 167, Kapolei, Hawai'i
- Hilo State Office Building, 75 Aupuni Street, Basement, Hilo, Hawai'i
- Wailuku Judiciary Building, 2145 Main Street, First Floor, Wailuku, Maui
- Lihu'e State Office Building, 3060 Eiwa Street, Basement, Lihu'e, Kaua'i

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DOH Admin Rule Change for HIV Rapid Testing

To request a copy of the proposed rules by mail, contact the Office of Health Care Assurance by calling (808) 586-4080, or writing OHCA, 1250 Punchbowl Street, Room 340, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813. Copies of the proposed rules are available for review at this location from the hours of 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday (not including holidays). Proposed rules may be accessed via the internet at <http://www.hawaii.gov/health/about/rules/admrulechanges.html>

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